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adulthood

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adulthood

porter pearson

a woman's work is never done, my grandmother and mother often said, at the times i thought they were merely trying to make me feel guilty. guilt is recognized early in life by a female child. it is held, observed and shaped to accomplish the desired result.

a woman's work is never done, the line returned stronger in my teen years when i was expected to participate in the household chores, learn to sew and tend my clothes. i thought they were merely trying to scold me for dragging my feet when chores were waiting.

a woman's work is never done, the line popped into my mind as a young wife. i struggled to obtain a routine that accomplished grocery shopping, laundry, cleaning house and going off to work everyday. time for myself had evaporated, i felt it had been stolen, or did i give it up freely, with little thought to the outcome.

a woman's work is never done, a line that served as a battle cry for those of us in the 70's pushing for recognition. the feminist movement would surely cause some equality to occur for us as professionals, wives and mothers. equal pay, recognition of the struggle, opportunities for advancement, and even sharing of responsibilities for the household chores.

a woman's work is never done, the line sadly returns. the surveys proclaim that women must seek employment outside the home so that the family can survive. single mothers must do so in a world without equal pay and limited advancement. no change has occurred in the accomplishment of housework, the survey continues, women accomplish the majority of tasks.

a woman's work is never done, finally i realize my grandmother and mother were not trying to make me feel guilty when as a child i played while they worked. they were not even trying to make me feel guilty as a teenager when i dreaded participating in any of the household chores. they were just trying to prepare me for the future...

a woman's work is never done.